

AITKIN COUNTY SWCD  
130 SOUTHGATE DRIVE  
AITKIN, MN 56431

Minutes of the Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 16, 2019. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Those attending were:

Frank Turnock, Chair  
Tom Fasteland, Secretary  
Bob Janzen, Reporter  
Steve Hughes, District Manager  
Lori Nelson, District Secretary  
Chris Pence, MN Board Conservationist

Those absent were:

Roger Vogt, Vice Chair  
Bob Roseberg, Treasurer

Additions to the agenda:

Bills over \$3000

-RESPEC/\$3000

-EOR/Corrected bill coming from EOR

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve the agenda with additions. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve the June 18, 2019 minutes. Approved unanimously.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Janzen to accept the June financial statement. Approved unanimously.

#### CHECKS WRITTEN

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve checks written. Approved unanimously.

## AIS UPDATE

-Decontamination units are all working again.

-Bait Water Project Update

Good cooperation with the bait shops—picking up from last year. Fisher's Resort hands out towels and Agate Bay Resort was added this year to hand out towels as they both have water on site.

-Boatlift & Dock Incentive (\$100) was started this year. Three people have applied for the Boatlift & Dock Incentive.

-There will be an end of the season lunch provided again for the inspectors.

## WRAPS UPDATE/GRAND RAPIDS AND BRAINERD

(see District Technician's Report)

## FORESTRY/TECHNICIAN POSITION INTERVIEWS

Discussion. Three applicants have applied for this position. Troy Holcomb, DNR along with Bob Janzen and Tom Fasteland will be on the Interview Committee. Interviews will be held on Friday, July 19, 2019. It was discussed and decided that the Interview Committee will make the choice on that day for the position.

## SWCD FORESTRY COMMITTEE/JULY 18, 2019

There will be a SWCD Forestry Committee meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2019. Discussion re: North Region Forester Grant will be held. Some discussion was held about hiring a consulting forester to finish off the grant. Tom Fasteland won't be able to attend the meeting on Thursday but willing to help with any questions re: consulting forester. There will be a tour of American Peat in Rossburg in the afternoon.

## RON REDDING/BIG PINE LAKE (WAGNER TWP.)/\$1072.90/FY 19 COST-SHARE

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve payment of \$1072.90 to Ron Redding. Approved unanimously.

## RICHARD HEGGEMEYER PROPERTY

Updated the SWCD on this property.

## DISTRICT TECHNICIAN'S REPORT (see attached report)

AIS STARRY TREK DAY-A statewide event will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2019

## WRAPS/GRAND RAPIDS & BRAINERD UPDATE

The WRAPS report for the Mississippi River Grand Rapids Watershed has been submitted to the EPA for review and is now open for public comments. A public Open House to discuss this document and gather public input was held last week in Tamarack.

The Mississippi River Brainerd WRAPS Phase I contract ended in June. Civic engagement efforts continue.

## MISSISSIPPI RIVER TMDL UPDATE

Background information for the Mississippi River TMDL has been underway.

## EPA SECTION 319 GRANT PROGRAM

An interview will be held with the MPCA next Wednesday, July 24, 2019 from 9-12 at the school in Cromwell. The Tamarack River Watershed in Aitkin and Carlton Counties and Lake Minnewawa Watershed was proposed for financial support through this program.

## 2019 DISTRICT CAPACITY COST-SHARE/\$20,000

A motion was made by Tom Fastland and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve \$20,000 from 2019 District Capacity to be used for cost-share projects. Approved unanimously.

## AITKIN SWCD & PHEASANTS, INC./LOCAL PARTNERS AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Tom Fastland and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve the Local Partners Agreement between Aitkin SWCD and Pheasants, Inc. Approved unanimously.

## OTHER

RESPEC/\$7017.03

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve payment of \$7017.03 to RESPEC. Approved unanimously.

## EOR BILL

Last month a bill for EOR was approved in the amount of \$12,735. Since then we have heard from EOR and they made an error in the bill so they sent our check back in the amount of \$12,735. Check has been voided. No new bill has been received. A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve payment when corrected bill is received. Approved unanimously.

SNAKE RIVER REPORT (No report)

## DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Steve will be attending a meeting in St. Paul tomorrow at the NRCS office to discuss the forestry resolution that we put forward to MASWCD about two years ago (copy attached).

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S REPORT (see attached report)

Update on programs CSP, EQIP, etc.

## FARM BILL BIOLOGIST REPORT

- Update on projects
- Easement update
- Training update

## BWSR BOARD CONSERVATIONIST REPORT

- Update on Pine River One Watershed One Plan
  - Public hearing was held on Wednesday, June 26. Plan is being reviewed by BWSR August 7, full approval by September 25, 2019.
- Grant Quarterly Update
  - Buffers, Riparian Aid to counties
  - Block Grants, WCA, Cost-Share, Conservation Delivery and Buffer
  - Methods for depreciation for vehicles

Grants expiring at the end of the year  
RFP open now for CWP—closes September 9  
BWSR Academy, Oct. 29-31, 2019  
New Policy Cost-Share Preconstruction cover

BUFFER SPECIALIST REPORT (see attached report)

The next SWCD Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at the  
Ag Service Center at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Fasteland  
Secretary